

Bedford Youth and Family Services Committee Meeting

MINUTES

Thursday, September 8, 2016

Attendance: Sue Baldauf, Director; Tom Pinney, At large; Caroline Fedele, Selectmen and Recreation Commission; Marcia Morgan, At Large, Jeff Wardwell, Police

Absent: Peter Ricci, At large; Alison Malkin Chair, At Large; Dan Brosgol, School Committee; Board of Health liaison

Meeting opened at 7:02 pm with Tom Pinney presiding.

Minutes: Minutes from May 12, 2016 meeting were approved as amended.

Old Business:

Grants update: Sue reported that the new Bedford DASH resident shuttle was getting ready for its official kick-off on September 12. It would be part of the Bedford Day parade. Carla Olson to work extra hours per week to accommodate additional DASH administrative needs.

Veterans Update: Bedford Green at the VA Hospital has 69 Veterans residing there which is putting a strain on the veterans benefits budget line item. At this rate, funds would run out in the Dec/Jan timeframe. May need additional funding as a line item during fall town meeting.

Programming: Upcoming parent programs:

- Navigating the Cyber World for Parents of Teens (High School Parents) 9/22 with Kristen Noto
- Navigating the Cyber World for Parents of Teens (Middle School Parents) 10/6 with Kristen Noto
- Fall Newsletter and After School Program brochure handed out

Sue working with the Police Department and Bedford High School to develop an Opioid prevention workshop with co-sponsorship with Wellness council and/or existing Board of Health program in January.

Walk/Bike to School Day is 10/5. Still determining the best place to start. i.e., Depot Park or Marshalls parking lot.

Youth Behavior survey results are in. We will have a readout during the November meeting. Sue says there is interesting data related to: marijuana use, mental health, and stress.

New Business:

Marijuana Referendum Question: Group discussed possible letter related to the upcoming November referendum on the legalization of recreational marijuana. Neither Sue or the Department can take a stand or submit a letter addressing concerns on a referendum question to any news outlet. At-Large YFS Committee members could submit a letter to the editor but could not vote to do so as a Committee with only 2 of the 4 At-Large members present. Any individual YFS Committee member may be able to submit the letter as a resident/At-Large member, should they so desire.

Updates from Committee Participants:

Selectmen and Recreation Committee-Caroline Fedele

- Caroline reminded us that today, Sept 8 is the state primary.
- The Bedford DASH will start on 9/12. Requests for rides and user data will be gathered and assessed as the program continues.
- Bedford Day is scheduled for Saturday, September 17.
- A new sidewalk has been added on Hemlock Road.
- Fawn Lake budget approved and dredging work/planning moving forward.
- Spring's Brook Park had fewer life guards this summer. It was the first summer with the new membership strategy. Still evolving and being evaluated.

Police – Jeff Wardwell

- Sheriff's camp was held during the summer at Chelmsford High. Fewer kids attended but it was a huge success for all.
- School off to a good start after a few days. New principal at the High School settling in.
- The Bedford Police saw some activity at Bedford Green after it opened but things are settling down nicely. Response to issues at Bedford Green is jointly shared with VA and Bedford Police.
- There was a recent drug overdose in town of a 21 year old BHS graduate. Overdose was due to heroin.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:32 pm.

Next meeting is on 11/10/16 at 7:00 pm. Chair: Ali Malkin Clerk: Marcia Morgan, At-Large

Respectfully submitted,
Tom Pinney, Clerk